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Fair, cold tonight; cloudy tomorrow; light to fresh northerly winds.

NUMBER 3530.

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 9, 1904.

PRICE ONE CENT.

The Washington Times

...YOU FURNISH THE ROOM...
TIMES WANTS
WILL FURNISH THE BOARDER



Fire-swept Baltimore Street. Down this thoroughfare, the city's great avenue of trade, raged the flames devouring acres of property. The stretch is for more than a mile.



On the site shown in this picture stood the big dry goods and notions establishment in which the fire originated. Adjoining were some of the greatest commercial establishments of the south.

GAUNT FAMINE STARES BALTIMORE IN THE FACE

Vast Ruins in Center of City
Still Smoldering---Thousands Out of Work.

AN EPITOME OF THE FACTS.

Loss more than \$150,000,000.
Buildings destroyed, 2,400.
Lives lost, none reported.
Persons thrown out of employment, 60,000.
Size of fire-swept area, one mile in length and a quarter of a mile wide.
Business almost entirely suspended.
All banks closed and fourteen burned.
Militia patrolling the streets.
Insurance companies will lose \$75,000,000.
Plans already under way to rebuild and beautify the city.
Not a single case of looting reported.
Firemen from other cities prepare to go to their homes.
Gen. H. C. Corbin calls on State military officers and returns to New York.
Legislature meets and fails to call for regulars.
United States troops guard Federal building.

BALTIMORE, Md., Feb. 9.—The government and citizens of Baltimore have begun their fight against famine and financial ruin.

There is a little more to fear from the fire. The vast ruins in the center of the city and along the wharves are still smoldering; fires are flickering here and there, with a heavy pull of smoke over all—a gigantic element of danger—but should there be no gale, the big conflagration is ended.

The fire has, however, left a trail of terrible ruin behind it and this ruin is the tremendous problem Baltimore people are grappling with today. All the financial, commercial, and industrial bodies, as well as citizens' committees, are meeting today, planning temporary relief. Early estimates placed the number of people thrown out of employment by the fire at fifty thousand. This morning conservative men say the number is nearer seventy thousand, and a majority is of that class with nothing ahead for a rainy day. Many families are already beginning to feel the pangs of hunger and unless action is prompt, famine will be realized in a day or so.

THE WEATHER REPORT.

There has been no material change in the great ice gorge in the northern branch of the Susquehanna River, and the height of the ice and water at the Catowissa Bridge is now twenty-two feet. The rivers at Pittsburgh are falling after a moderate flood during Monday and Tuesday night.

The southwestern disturbance will probably develop slowly, causing rain tonight and Wednesday in the Southern States, and snow in the Ohio Valley and lower lake region. In the Middle Atlantic States fair weather tonight will be followed by increasing cloudiness Wednesday.

Temperature changes will not be marked.

TEMPERATURE.
9 a. m. 21
12 noon 21
1 p. m. 23
Sun sets today, 5:29 p. m.
Sun rises tomorrow, 6:58 a. m.

TIDE TABLE.
High tide today, 2:28 a. m.
High tide tomorrow, 2:36 a. m.
Low tide tomorrow, 10:27 p. m.

MAYOR McLANE, OF BALTIMORE, TO THE TIMES.

We have undergone a tremendous loss. It is one of the financial and commercial tragedies of the century, but the enterprise and patriotism of Baltimore men will soon overcome this. Judging from figures given me this morning by conservative men, I think the loss will amount to about \$150,000,000. We have, however, money and enterprise enough to overcome this great loss, and within two years, as the extreme limit, will have a bigger and better Baltimore than before the fire began.

NO MORE REGULARS GO TO BALTIMORE

Gen. Corbin Countermands Previous Order.

NOT UNDER MARTIAL LAW

Militia Aiding Police and U. S. Troops From Fort McHenry Simply Guarding Government Buildings.

BALTIMORE, Feb. 9.—Major Gen. H. C. Corbin, commander of the Department of the East, with his staff, arrived here yesterday at midnight. Captain Pierce, United States Artillery, who was in the city inspecting the National Guard when the disaster occurred on Sunday and who is now acting Adjutant General Riggs, in charge of the State troops, met the major general at the depot.

General Corbin was escorted from the station to the city hall, where the headquarters of the militia have been established.

The situation was carefully explained to General Corbin, who complimented the militia and the police for their splendid grasp of the situation. He then countermanded the order directing a battalion of infantry from Plattsburg and Madison Barracks, and from Governor's island, 1,000 in all, to report to Baltimore as an auxiliary to the troops and police there. General Corbin returned this morning to New York.

Adjutant General Riggs, speaking of the police condition of the city this morning, said: "Not one case of attempted or accomplished looting has been reported."

No Martial Law.

"The city is not under martial law. The troops are simply an adjunct to the police and a cordon has been established and will be maintained around the entire fire zone."

"The militia is 1,000 strong. Regulars from Fort McHenry are guarding the Government buildings."

"The militia boys, many of whom are out of employment now, are rendering conscientious and faithful service. A complete cordon of troops is constantly guarding the edges of the fire zone and detachments of cavalry are patrolling the ruined territory wherever it is possible to force the horses."

Policing the Streets.

"The police relief of this gigantic guarding proposition is giving careful attention to policing the streets. 'Suspicious characters will not be tolerated, and the saloons must all remain closed.'"

Sensors Gorman and McComas called at the War Department this morning and informed Secretary Taft that it had been found the Maryland militia will be able to preserve order in Baltimore, and thanked him for the prompt action the War Department took in ordering troops to the burned city.

Senator Gorman said the Maryland Legislature did not pass a resolution last night, asking for the assistance of regulars because it was found that the militia could manage the situation.

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AUGUST W. MACHEN ON WITNESS STAND

Tells of His Arduous Duties in Washington.

DEALINGS WITH LORENZ

Former Superintendent Assumes Full Responsibility for Acts of His Clerk, Miss Leibhart.

The climax in the trial of the post-office conspiracy cases, which has been in progress for more than four weeks, was reached today when August W. Machen, who is considered chief of the defendants, went on the witness stand and testified in his own behalf.

There was no necessity for the constant rapping for order by bailiffs, which was noticeable on other days of the trial. The court room was filled to its seating and standing capacity when Justice Pritchard entered the court room at 10:30 a. m., and the hearing in the trial of Machen, the Lorenzs, and the Groffs was resumed.

The "Star" Witness.

As the jury men filed into the room and took their seats in the jury box, they appeared to be somewhat freshened up by the relaxation from work since Saturday. In a moment or two quiet reigned, and everyone settled down to hear the star witness for the defendants testify. The crowd was, however, disappointed, for Machen was not the first witness called by the defense, as was generally expected. George E. Lorenz, one of the defendants, who testified last week, was first called to testify in reference to some matters of minor importance in connection with the case.

Machen's testimony in the main had reference to his early business dealings with Lorenz, and as to routine matters connected with his office of superintendent of the free delivery system of the Postoffice Department.

Assumed Responsibility.

In the course of his testimony, however, he took occasion in speaking of the work and duties of his chief clerk, Ina S. Leibhart, to say that he stood responsible for every act of hers done in her official duty. He made a good witness. He was not inclined to talk more than was necessary.

His voice was clear and well modulated and he spoke in a forceful manner, while always avoiding anything which looked like argumentativeness.

Many Women Present.

All of counsel on both sides, with the exception of Assistant District Attorney Taggart, were present at the morning session. Mr. Taggart, who has been compelled to stay at home for several days because of a severe cold, was well enough today, however, to be at his office. In the early part of the morning session, counsel for the Government objected to the introduction of certain documentary evidence, but later withdrew the objection and the paper was

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MUSIC IN PARKS SIX DAYS IN WEEK

Marine, Cavalry, and Engineer Bands to Play.

FROM JUNE TO OCTOBER

White House, Capitol, Judiciary, Lincoln, Smithsonian, Franklin, and Other Parks.

The War Department has issued a schedule for band concerts which are to be given next summer in the public parks of Washington by the Marine Band, the Cavalry Band from Fort Myer, and the Engineer Band from the Washington Barracks.

The Marine Band will play its regular Wednesday afternoon concerts at the Capitol commencing June 1 and continuing through September. It will also play on Saturdays at the White House. The Cavalry Band will give concerts in public parks on Monday and Thursday afternoons from June 1 to September 30, and the Engineer Band will play on Tuesday and Friday afternoons during the same period.

Concerts are to be given by the Cavalry and Engineer Bands in the following parks: Judiciary, Lincoln, Smithsonian, Franklin, Iowa Circle, Dupont Circle, and Garfield.

Colonel Symons' Work.

Colonel Symons, Superintendent of Public Buildings and Grounds, is responsible for this innovation, which will prove of vast interest to residents of Washington whom circumstances compel to remain in the city throughout the greater part of the summer. He has been working industriously to gain the concession, and through his earnest efforts there will be a concert every afternoon in the park. Not only will the plan prove of interest to music lovers, but the poor classes—people who have few pleasures of any kind—will be able to enjoy a privilege they have never known before. It will be the first time that high-class concerts have been given in the parks of Washington, with the exception of the President's grounds and at the Capitol.

WILLARD HOTEL COMPANY SUED FOR \$10,000 DAMAGES

The Willard Hotel Company is named as defendant in a suit filed by Louise M. Harbaugh, to recover \$10,000 as damages for injuries alleged to have been suffered by Carl Harbaugh, an infant, in an elevator operated by the company, as a result of which injury two of Carl's toes had to be amputated. Andrew A. Lipscomb and George C. Meigs are named as counsel for the plaintiff.

The Underwriters Agency of New York, with characteristic promptness, is already adjusting and paying its Baltimore losses. Tyler & Rutherford, Inc., agents, 1307 F Street—Adv.

Meager Details of a Torpedo Attack, in Which Two Russian Ships Are Damaged.

CHEFOO, Feb. 9.—The initial victory of the Russo-Japan war has been scored by the Japanese navy in a sensational attack under the guns of Port Arthur. This is the most vulnerable point of Russian defense. The harbor is too small to hold all the fleet, necessitating a number to anchor in the outer roads.

Two days ago the Japanese vessels were sighted off Wei-Hai-Wei. On Monday night, under cover of darkness, a torpedo detachment of nine vessels got within firing distance and discharged tubes. Two Russian battleships and one cruiser were damaged.

The greatest confusion was immediately manifest aboard the Russian fleet of vessels. The Japanese fleet at once retreated amid a furious broadside, pursued by the Russians. There is, however, no report of damage done to the Japanese.

LONDON, Feb. 9.—A St. Petersburg dispatch timed 2:30 p. m. says the admiralty has received news that the Japanese made a vicious attack on Port Arthur. The place is reported in flames.

The Japs are said to have suffered heavily, losing eleven warships. One Russian warship is also reported sunk. Eleven Russians are said to have been killed and many wounded.

REPORT IS CONFIRMED BY ADMIRAL ALEXIEFF

ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 9.—According to the "Official Messenger," a paper closely in touch with all governmental affairs, the first gun of the Japanese-Russian war has been fired and war is an actuality.

The paper reports that Admiral Alexieff, Russian viceroy of the Far East, at midnight of February 8, telegraphed the Czar that nine Japanese boats suddenly made an attack by mines upon the Russian squadron in the outer roads off Port Arthur. In the clash the Russian battleships Retvizan and Tsarevich, and the cruiser Pallada, were damaged. The damaged battleships are of the latest and best in the Russian navy.

Description of Vessels.

The Retvizan was launched in 1901. She is a vessel of 12,700 tons displacement, has an armament of four 12-inch, twelve 6-inch, and twenty 3-inch quick-firing guns. She has an indicated horsepower of 16,300, and a nominal speed of eighteen knots an hour.

The Tsarevich was launched in 1902. She has a displacement of 13,100 tons, and an armament and horsepower similar to that of the Retvizan. The Pallada, is a smaller vessel than the other two, but she carries a heavy armament for a vessel of her size. She has a displacement of 6,500 tons, carries an armament of 8 six-inch quick-firing guns, 24 three-inch quick-firing and 8 smaller guns; has an indicated horsepower of 11,510, and a nominal speed of 20 knots an hour.

The report of Admiral Alexieff to the Czar reads as follows:

Admiral Alexieff's Report.

"I most respectfully inform your majesty that at or about midnight of February 8-9 Japanese torpedo boats made a sudden attack by means of mines upon the Russian squadron in the outer roads of the fortress of Port Arthur, in which the battleships Retvizan, Tsarevich and cruiser Pallada were damaged. An inspection is being

made to ascertain the character of the damage. Details are following for your majesty."

The battle has caused the cancelling of the imperial ball which was set for this evening. In its place a solemn Te Deum will be celebrated at 2 o'clock this afternoon, and will be attended by all the court functionaries. Prayers will be offered for speedy victory to the Russian crews.

FRENCH FOREIGN OFFICE RECEIVES SAME NEWS

PARIS, Feb. 9.—An official dispatch to the foreign ministry today says the Russian cruiser Pallada was sunk and the Russian battleships Retvizan and Tsarevich seriously damaged in the fight between Russian and Japanese vessels outside of Port Arthur Harbor at midnight last night.

The "Agence Nationale" publishes a dispatch from St. Petersburg, stating that the Japanese navy has sunk two Russian cruisers and one transport off Port Arthur.

The St. Petersburg correspondent of the "Agence Nationale" reaffirms that two Russian battleships were sunk in the fight with Japanese vessels off Port Arthur.

At a meeting of the council of ministers today Foreign Minister Delcasse announced that the French minister at Tokyo, at the request of the Russian government, had undertaken the protection of Russian interests in Japan.

JAPANESE SQUADRON BEFORE PORT ARTHUR

LONDON, Feb. 9.—The Berlin correspondent of the Central News wires that a dispatch has been received there from St. Petersburg, stating that, following the attack by mines on the Russian squadron, a large fleet of Japanese battleships and cruisers appeared outside of Port Arthur.

A Japanese export house has just received information that Russian war-

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